

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00286 150412Z

12-R  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W  
----- 036165  
R 141530Z FEB 74  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7558  
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 0286

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR  
SUBJECT: LA FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING: DISCUSSION WITH  
FOREIGN MINISTER RAYMOND

REF: STATE 024947

1. I CALLED ON FONMIN RAYMOND MORNING OF FEBRUARY 13 TO  
DELIVER SECRETARY'S LETTER AND DISCUSS OUTLOOK FOR MEXICO  
CITY MEETING. RAYMOND WAS MOST PLEASED BY BOTH CONTENTS  
AND CORDIAL PERSONAL TONE OF SECRETARY'S LETTER, RECALLING  
THEIR NEW YORK MEETING LAST FALL AND THE DEEP IMPRESSION THE  
SECRETARY'S PERSONALITY HAD MADE ON HIM AT THAT TIME.

2. DURING MY PRESENTATION RAYMOND LISTENED ATTENTIVELY,  
TAKING DETAILED NOTES AND CONSULTING HIS DOSSIER FREQUENTLY.  
HE SEEMED IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH BOTH OUR PREFERRED FORMAT  
AND WITH OUR VIEWS ON AGENDA ITEMS.

3. HOWEVER, RAYMOND EXPRESSED DISTINCT CONCERN OVER POTENTIALLY  
DIVISIVE EFFECT OF CUBA AT FONMIN MEETING. HE TOOK NOTE OF MY  
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STATEMENT THAT U.S. POLICY ON CUBA HAS NOT CHANGED AND NOTED MY

REFERENCE TO CUBAN FONMIN COMMUNIQUE REAFFIRMING INTRANSIGENT LINE FOLLOWING RECENT PRESS SPECULATION. NEVERTHELESS, AS RAYMOND SEES IT, INCREASING NUMBER OF LA STATES, BESET BY INTERNAL PRESSURES IMPELLING THEM TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO YOUTH AND TO LEFT-WING ELEMENTS, ARE CONSIDERING ESTABLISHMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND SOON WOULD BE PRESSING FOR CUBA'S READMISSION TO OAS. UTILIZING "IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM" SLOGAN AND POINTING TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S DETENTE POLICIES WITH CHINA AND USSR, THEY MIGHT CAUSE TROUBLE AT MEXICO CITY, PARTICULARLY IF AGENDA FAILED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH OTHER SPECIFIC LA COMPLAINTS, E.G., MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. RAYMOND NOTED IN PASSING THAT FOR CARIBBEAN STATES CONSIDERING CLOSER ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INCLUDING GOH, CUBA REPRESENTED A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO ANY PROSPECT OF DEVELOPING A KIND OF CARIBBEAN MARE NOSTRUM.

4. GOH, RAYMOND EMPHASIZED, REAMAINED FIRMLY ANTI-COMMUNIST, AND WAS ABSORBED IN PUSHING HAITI'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS ITS PRIMARY TASK, BUT IT HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT "CONCRETE REALITIES" OF REGIONAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND DID NOT WISH TO BECOME ISOLATED FROM A SUBSTANTIAL GROUP OF LA NATIONS IF TREND FOR CLOSER TIES TO CUBA WERE TO GAIN MOMENTUM.

5. COMMENT: RAYMOND'S THEME IS A RECURRENT ONE HERE, AND IN DWELLING ON IT AT SOME LENGTH HE SEEMED INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN MAKING CLEAR THAT HAITI'S DIPLOMACY, LIKE ITS STRESS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SEEKS TO BE FORWARD-LOOKING RATHER THAN REMAIN A PRISONER OF THE PAST. THE KIND OF INFORMAL, COMPREHENSIVE, AND CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS ENVISAGED AT MEXICO CITY WILL BE OF GREAT HELP IN GIVING RAYMOND AND PRESIDENT DUVALIER REASSURANCE THAT THEIR APPROACH IS IN FACT REALISTIC AND THAT, IRRESPECTIVE OF CUBA, THEY WILL NOT BE LEFT OUT IN THE COLD.

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